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THE CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN

CHARLES RICHARDSON

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THE CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN

The Chancellorsville Campaign

Fredericksburg to Salem Church

BY
CHARLES RICHARDSON

NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON
THE NEALE PUBLISHING COMPANY
1907

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To

THE SOLDIERS OF THOSE TWO ARMIES WHO IN MANLY CONTEST AMIDST THE FIRE OF BATTLE WROUGHT FOR THEMSELVES IMMORTALITY.

BRAVE MEN MADE THE HISTORY; NO EMBELLISHMENT IS NECESSARY TO GIVE IT LUSTER.

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FREDERICKSBURG

"Glorious things are spoken of thee."—Psalms.

If you travel the globe over, wherever you meet an educated man, whether in Europe, Asia, or Africa, and of course in America, just mention Fredericksburg and instantly his countenance will beam with a light that speaks thus, "Yes, I know of Fredericksburg, where Lee and Jackson fought."

Did sharp competition, now so rife, stop the wheels of every factory and close every store in Fredericksburg; did contagion spring forth—which is not likely in so healthy a town—and destroy the population, which may God avert, yet and ever, while the world is peopled, men, and women, too, will come to Fredericksburg, the rich-

est field in great events on the earth's surface.

Our historians tell us that in the year 1608 Capt. John Smith came up the Rappahannock in a boat, with twelve other white men and an Indian guide, to the falls near where Fredericksburg was subsequently built. But even at so early a day the ground was difficult of access to a foe; the Rappahannock Indians, courageous and formidable, fearless of the daring adventurers' matchlocks, with their bows and arrows drove off the doughty Captain and his crew, who retired down the river, somewhat disconcerted.

Fredericksburg, named for Prince Frederick, son of George II, King of England, was founded in 1727. Col. William Byrd, visiting the place in 1782, says, "I was obliged to rise early here, that I might not starve my landlord, whose constitution requires him to swallow a beefsteak before the Sun blesses the World with his genial rays. However, he was so complaisant as to

bear the gnawing of his stomach till eight o'clock for my sake. Colonel Waller, after a score of loud hem's to clear his throat, broke his fast along with us. When this necessary affair was dispatched, Col. (Henry) Willis walked me about his town of Fredericksburg. Though this be a commodious and beautiful situation for a town, with the advantages of a navigable river, and wholesome air, yet the inhabitants are very few. Besides Colonel Willis, who is the top man of the place, there are only one merchant, a tailor, and an Ordinary Keeper; though I must not forget Mrs. Levistone, who acts here in the double capacity of doctress and coffee woman; and were this a populous City, she is qualified to exercise two other callings. It is said the Courthouse and the Church are going to be built here, and then both religion and justice will help to enlighten the place." Colonel Byrd's prediction has been happily verified.

The town lies along the south bank of the Rappahannock, its head (northern extremity) resting on the hillside and smiling at the village of Falmouth, just across the river; stretching south a mile and a half, it laves its foot in the Hazel behind the elegant homestead Hazel Hill.

The streets intersect each other at right angles. Caroline (commonly called Main) street is the principal thoroughfare, along which are the merchants' shops; it runs north and south from end to end of the town. Princess Anne is the next parallel street west of Caroline, then come Charles, Prince Edward, etc. The intersecting streets requiring mention here are William (better known as Commerce) street, which commences at the head of the bridge which crosses the Rappahannock to the Lacy House, and runs west to the boundary of the town, where it merges into the Orange Plank road leading to Chancellorsville. George, Hanover, Charlotte,

Wolfe, and Prussia are the successive parallel streets, the last named passing the depot of the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad and out toward Willis Hill.

THE FIELD OF BATTLE

In prolongation of William (Commerce) street the Orange Plank road extends westward, dipping gradually to the mill sluice, and then running straight three-fourths of a mile, to the first range of hills, which it climbs by an easy grade. If we pause here on top of the hill and face to the right (north) we see Stansbury's house, a mile away; half a mile beyond it is Dr. Taylor's, where the ridge ends—lifting its brow fifty feet above the Rappahannock. The river flowing from northwest curves around the bluff on which Dr. Taylor's house stands conspicuous, looking over Beck's Island at Falmouth, a mile distant, and, in a military sense, commands the Heights and Valley, as far

as a cannon-shot would reach. Banks' Ford is two miles up the river from Dr. Taylor's.

Now if we face about and look south we see the stately Marye mansion, three hundred yards away. The ridge in that direction is cut, a hundred yards beyond the house, by a weather-worn rift dividing Marye's from Willis Hill—named after the original owner and first occupant, Col. Henry Willis, whose remains lie buried in the little walled graveyard situated about midway of the hill. Three hundred yards south of the graveyard the ridge stops, the shoulder of the hill looming boldly above the valley of the Hazel.

Two hundred and forty yards south of William (Commerce) street, and running parallel with it, is Hanover street. Where it leaves the town it is called the Telegraph road, and leads direct to Marye's Heights, where, turning south, it cuts its way through the foot of the ridge for half a mile, acquiring the *nom de guerre* "Sunken

road"; curving around the salient of Willis Hill, it crosses Hazel Run and climbs, wearily, Lee's* Hill, then pursues its course southwestward, passing five hundred yards in rear of Howison's house, which nestles against the southern slope of the ridge —a mile from Fredericksburg (as the crow flies). A mile farther down the road we come to Cox's house, thence away four miles south is Hamilton's Crossing.

Returning, if we halt and face to the front on Lee's Hill, as the eye scans the prospect, to the left we see half of Fredericksburg, whose southern limit is defined by the Hazel, which, in wearing its way through the hummock to unite with the Rappahannock, gives the vertex its name—Hazel Hill. In a straight line to the right, nine hundred yards from Hazel Hill, is Ferneyhough's, fronting on the Bowling Green road. Another half-mile in the same direction is the gorge called Deep

*Where General Lee stood in the battle, Dec. 13, 1862.

Bottom on Bernard's Farm, adjoining which is Mansfield (where General Franklin's headquarters were in the battle of December 13, 1862), and where were the bridge-heads of the pontoons over which General Sedgwick's forces crossed to the attack.

A mile southwest of Deep Bottom the Bowling Green road forks, its left branch coursing toward Richmond; its right, called the Mine road, bearing west, intersects the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad at a point four miles from Fredericksburg called "Hamilton's Crossing," where the extreme right of General Early's line rested.

The plateau between the Bowling Green road and the foot of the ridge, on which is Lee's Hill, is open and for the most part level, cut in half by the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad, and gashed in places by shallow streams and fissures.

Returning now to the Orange Plank road at the point whence we started

for our excursion on the Telegraph road, and facing northwest, we follow the road through open fields, dipping a mile onward to cross a tributary of the Hazel, which, welling on Stansbury's farm, disgorges into the Hazel behind Marye's Hill.

Mounting the next slope, an extended plateau opens to view, clear on the left, but fringed on its right for more than a mile by thick woods, which extend back (north) to Stansbury's and Dr. Taylor's. We see Guest's house—two miles from Fredericksburg—on the left, standing midway between the road and the brow of the hill, overlooking the valley of the Hazel. Half a mile beyond Guest's, northwest, is Downman's, isolated by a narrow but deep valley, through which another tributary of the Hazel flows from near the Toll Gate. (N. B.—General Howe and his staff lodged in the Downman house the night of May 3, 1863.)

It is a mile from Guest's house to the Toll Gate, and a mile farther to Sa-

lem Heights. The intervening country is open and undulating, but encroached upon by ravines, some of which cross the Orange Plank road.

FREDERICKSBURG TO SALEM CHURCH

THE Army of Northern Virginia had lain all winter upon the bleak hills of Spottsylvania, in rear of Fredericksburg. Scantily clad were these men and poorly sheltered, yet warmed by the inextinguishable fire that glowed in their breasts, they patiently endured the many snows and rains that fell upon them.

"Headquarters,
"Army of Northern Virginia,
"March 27, 1863.

"To the Honorable James A. Seddon,
Secretary of War:

"The troops of my army have for some time been confined to reduced rations.

"Each regiment is directed to send a daily detail to gather sassafras buds,

wild onions, garlic, lamb's quarter and poke sprouts, but the supply obtained is very small.

"The men are cheerful and I receive but few complaints.

"R. E. LEE, General."

Endorsed: "Referred to Commissary General for consideration and report.

"J. A. SEDDON,
"Secretary of War."

"Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War.

"The appearance of the men in General Lee's army and their health confirms the opinion of Dr. Cartwright as to diminishing the ration, and it is recommended that the bacon and pork ration be accordingly reduced to one-fourth of a pound throughout the army.

"L. B. NORTHROP,
"Commissary General of Subsistence."

On the morning of April 29, 1863, we (the Confederates) were aroused from our repose by a sudden and brisk fire of musketry and artillery, occurring in the rear of Bernard's Farm.

A dense fog hung over the Rappahannock and the fields, obscuring the view, but we soon learned from our pickets that a body of the enemy had made a sudden dash across the river in pontoon boats and effected a lodgment near the mouth of Deep Run, on Bernard's Farm, about two miles below Fredericksburg. Two pontoon bridges were soon thrown, and a large force under General John Sedgwick crossed, menacing the right of our army.

During the day (29th) General Lee received intelligence from General Stuart that a large body of Union infantry and artillery was marching up the north side of the Rappahannock River. "Later in the day it was learned that General Hooker, with the main body of his army, had passed

the river and lodged in the woods near Chancellorsville."

It was now (30th) apparent to General Lee, "considering the inactivity of the enemy confronting us at Fredericksburg, that the main attack would be made against our left flank and rear." He "therefore determined to leave sufficient troops to hold our lines near Fredericksburg and with the main body of the army to give battle to the approaching columns under General Hooker."

Leaving General Early's division (four brigades) of Jackson's corps, and General Barksdale's brigade (of McLaws's division) and a number of batteries under General Pendleton to observe General Sedgwick, at midnight of the 30th General McLaws marched with the rest of his command toward Chancellorsville, and was followed at dawn next morning (May 1) by General Jackson's corps, with the exception of General Early's division.

General Early had a long line to

protect, extending from the foot of Taylor's Hill, opposite Falmouth, to Hamilton's Crossing, more than six miles. He posted four brigades of his division (Hays, Smith, Hoke, Gordon) along the ridge from Howison's house to Hamilton's Crossing, and covered his front from Dr. Taylor's to Howison's—embracing Fredericksburg—with Barksdale's brigade of four regiments, acting as pickets.

Eight guns were placed in earthworks on the crest of the heights in rear of Fredericksburg, to command the roads leading out of the town and the intervening ground. Lieutenant J. Thompson Brown, of Parker's Virginia battery, with his section and two ten-pounder Parrotts, occupied the pits on the shoulder of Willis Hill; next on his left, immediately in front of the old Willis burying-ground, was Captain Squires, of the Washington Artillery, with two three-inch rifles. Two guns of the Washington Artillery, under Lieutenant Hero, to the

left of the Marye house (between the Telegraph road and Plank road), and two of the Washington Artillery, under Lieutenant Apps, to the left and near the Plank road. On Lee's Hill, six hundred yards in rear of Willis Hill, was Fraser's Georgia battery, four guns, and on the ridge back of Howison's, Patterson (Georgia), with three guns, "in all, on both fronts, fifteen guns, while twenty-two, including the heaviest, were marching to the rear, and eleven others were waiting orders to march in the same direction." (General Pendleton's report.) Carlton's Georgia battery, after being withdrawn from its position night of May 2, was recalled to occupy the original post in rear of Howison's, and actively participated in the battle of May 3.

At this time Wilcox's brigade, five regiments, and two batteries of artillery (Lewis's Virginia, Lieutenant Penick; and Huger's Virginia, Captain Moore), lay along the River road,

covering Banks' Ford, the head of the column reaching near Dr. Taylor's.

From day to day General Sedgwick threateningly deployed his skirmishers, opened his artillery, and displayed his glittering infantry to incite General Early to exhibit his strength, but General Early was neither alarmed nor provoked by these demonstrations; he kept in the shade of the woods, while his men smoked their pipes and enjoyed the show.

But General Sedgwick had serious work to do, and it is presumable that he was not a little perplexed by General Early's dogged quietude; his objective was the rear of General Lee's army at Chancellorsville, and he knew that General Hooker anxiously expected him. At eleven o'clock the night of May 2 he received an order from General Hooker directing him to "move immediately in the direction of Chancellorsville, until he connected with the major-general commanding; to attack and destroy any force on the

road, and be in the vicinity of the General at daylight."

"I commenced, therefore, to move by the flank in the direction of Fredericksburg, on the Bowling Green road" (says General Sedgwick), "General Newton taking the advance, followed by the Light Brigade (Colonel Burnham) and Howe's division. I was ordered to take up all the bridges at Franklin's Crossing and below, before daylight, which was done under direction of General Benham."

General Barksdale gave prompt notice to General Early of the activity of the enemy, and was called in and his brigade disposed as follows, viz: Seven companies of the Twenty-first Mississippi, Colonel Humphreys, were posted in the road at the foot of Marye's Hill, their left extending to the Orange Plank road; on their right the Eighteenth Mississippi, Colonel Griffin, and three companies of the Twenty-first Mississippi prolonged the line, extending down the Tele-

graph road (at the foot of Willis Hill) to Hazel Run. The Seventeenth Mississippi, Colonel Holder, covered Lee's Hill with the Thirteenth Mississippi. Colonel Carter on the right extended in the direction of Howison's. A regiment of Hays's brigade was stationed on the right of the Thirteenth Mississippi to cover the batteries on Howison's Hill.

At dawn (third) General Wheaton's brigade of Newton's division entered Fredericksburg and immediately moved into position on the first ridge back of the town, near where the two railroads diverge, cutting their way through the hillock. General Wheaton threw forward the Sixty-second New York Regiment "to learn something of the nature of the defenses, etc., of the enemy; the regiment advanced within two hundred and fifty yards of the heights (Willis Hill), when it was opened upon by a heavy fire of musketry and artillery. Having in a few seconds lost sixty-four

officers and men, it fell back; thirty musket-balls pierced its flag" (showing that the Mississippians knew how to shoot).

General Sedgwick then put his batteries in position "to shell the enemy until the troops could be formed for another attack," McCarthy's, Harn's, and Butler's eighteen guns on the hills, near the railroads, behind Wheaton's brigade, and Cowan's six guns in front of Ferneyhough's house (just south of the Hazel). These twenty-four cannon poured a terrible fire of shell and shrapnel upon Brown and Squires. "The practice was excellent," says Colonel Tompkins, General Sedgwick's chief of artillery, as well it might be. Brown and Squires returned no reply; their orders were to reserve their fire solely for the infantry. Undaunted, they stood amidst the iron hail, awaiting the opportune moment.

GIBBON CROSSES INTO FREDERICKSBURG

A pontoon bridge having been thrown across the Rappahannock near the Lacy house about 6.30 A. M., two brigades of Gibbon's division—Hall's and Laflin's—accompanied by two batteries of artillery—Adams's and Brown's Rhode Island—crossed into the town and rested on Princess Anne street.

About eight o'clock a column of white smoke rose from the hill in Stafford, where the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad cuts through (near north end of bridge); another column of smoke went up from near the church at Falmouth; these were signals immediately responded to by the enemy's artillery in Falmouth, hitherto concealed from our view. They opened a brisk fire on Dr. Taylor's Hill, where were two guns (Cobbs's) of Wilcox's artillery. Simultaneously, Hall's and Laflin's brigades moved up the street and

debouched upon the plain north of the town, with the object to turn out left and seize Taylor's and Stansbury's hills. Wilcox's artillery, on Taylor's Hill, fired upon them. Lieutenant Hero, of the Washington Artillery, drew out his gun from the earthwork near the Plank road and, galloping up the ridge, opened upon the enemy. Then came two more guns from Lee's Hill, and whirled into battery, accompanied by four regiments of Hays's brigade, double-quicking, sent by General Early to disconcert General Gibbon. Filing into line at the foot of Stansbury's Hill, the Louisianians peppered Hall and Laflin, who lost eighty-one men in a very short time. Brown's Rhode Island battery took position and opened fire close by the Mary Washington Monument, but the shades of that good woman did not protect them. They retired, after losing twenty-three officers and men.

Checked and dismayed, Gibbon turned back into the town.

SEDGWICK PREPARES FOR CONCERTED ATTACK ON MARYE'S AND LEE'S HILLS

General Sedgwick was a soldier of indomitable determination; reverses did not subdue his strong will. He formed in the town, from Newton's division, three "storming columns of two regiments each, and a line of battle of four regiments to assault Marye's Heights in front," and ordered General Howe, who was on the south side of the Hazel, to advance at the same time his two brigades; while Brooks, on the Bowling Green road, in front of Bernard's, threatened the right of our small force on Lee's and Howison's hills, thereby engaging the attention of Gordon and Hoke.

THE BATTLE OF MARYE'S AND LEE'S HILLS

At eleven o'clock five batteries—thirty cannon—opened fire upon Marye's and Lee's hills, while out of

Commerce street and Hanover and Wolf streets Newton's dark columns poured at the double-quick, with bayonets fixed, and orders not to fire. They came like a storm cloud driven by the wind, five thousand sturdy men against our thin line in the road at the foot of the heights. They were only seven hundred men, but they were Barksdale's Mississippians, and behind them on the hills were only eight guns; and now they gave tongue, hurling solid shot and grape, shrapnel and canister, everything they had in store, tearing wide gaps in the advancing lines, plowing deep gashes in their thick columns, while the intrepid Mississippians plied their task industriously. Eleven hundred and nine of the dashing Union soldiers fell, killed or wounded, but those remaining unhurt closed up and pushed forward, carrying the heights and capturing the guns and two hundred of the Mississippians.

Meantime, nine regiments (four

thousand men), Howe's brigade, running across the fields and up in the mouth of the Hazel Valley, between Willis's and Lee's hills, overpowered the small force on Lee's and Howison's hills. There were but three regiments (two of Barksdale's and one of Hays's, and two batteries). They fell back and formed line across the Telegraph road behind Howison's, near Cox's, and checked Howe's men, who presently withdrew to Marye's Hill and followed Brooks's division, that at this time (one o'clock) had come up through Fredericksburg and was marching on the Orange Plank road toward Chancellorsville.

BROOKS IS CHECKED BY WILCOX

When General Brooks reached the summit of the second eminence on the Orange Plank road, the country being open, he formed his division (on Guest's farm, two miles from Freder-

icksburg) in column of brigade fronts, with extended line of skirmishers on the front and flanks, in advance, and his artillery on the road, which disposition prepared him to fight the enemy as soon as he was seen.

"The formation was hardly completed when he received the fire of two cannon" (they were Lieutenant Cobbs's guns of the Lewis-Penick's battery, serving with Wilcox).

General Wilcox had hastened from Taylor's Hill to aid General Barksdale in defending Marye's Heights, but, unable to reach him in time, threw his brigade across the Orange Plank road, near the Toll Gate, deployed his skirmishers, and opened his artillery on Brooks. ("These two pieces of artillery checked the advance a great deal," says General G. K. Warren, chief of engineers.)

"Several discharges were fired by the enemy from his artillery, one of which shots struck down Captain Read, A. A. G. of this division, and

killed a sergeant of Rigby's battery," says General Brooks.

"A section of artillery occupied every successive crest upon our line of march, and much annoyed our advance," says General John Sedgwick.

"The fire of these two guns (Cobbs's) held the enemy in check some time," says General Wilcox.

At length General Brooks brought up a battery (Rigby's six guns) and opened upon Wilcox, then slowly advanced his solid lines.

"My command then moved back to Salem Heights," says General Wilcox, "and formed line of battle across the Orange Plank road at right angles with it; the Eleventh and Fourteenth Alabama regiments were on the left of the road, the Tenth Alabama on the right, next to the road, the Eighth Alabama on the right of the Tenth. There was an interval of seventy-five or eighty yards between the left of the Tenth and the right of the Eleventh. In this interval of the road four pieces

of artillery (Lieutenant Penick, Lewis's battery) were in position. The Ninth Alabama Regiment was posted in rear of the Tenth Alabama."

The ground in front of Salem Heights for a considerable space was open; the heights were covered with a thick wood extending right and left several miles. Where our line was formed the wood from front to rear was about two hundred and fifty yards deep. General Wilcox aligned his brigade abreast of the church, in the rear verge of the wood; his skirmishers were in front of the wood, watching the enemy, who was forming near the Toll Gate, a mile distant.

GENERAL BROOKS'S ORDER OF BATTLE

Bartlett's (second) brigade, on the left of the Orange Plank road, in the following formation, viz.: From left to right, Fifth Maine, Ninety-sixth Pennsylvania, One Hundred and Twenty-first New York, Twenty-third

New Jersey, with the Sixteenth New York in rear of Twenty-third New Jersey.

First Brigade (Colonel B. W. Brown), First New Jersey, Third New Jersey, Fifteenth New Jersey, Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania, and One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania on the right of the road.

General Wheaton, of Newton's division, Ninety-third, One Hundred and Second and One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Pennsylvania regiments, on the right of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania.

A field battery near the Toll Gate opened a brisk fire of shell upon our battery in the road near the church, and threw shells to the right and left of the church, endeavoring to reach our infantry in the woods, but no casualties resulted from the explosions of the shells. The enemy's artillery ceased firing about five o'clock P. M.

BATTLE OF SALEM HEIGHTS

About five o'clock, Major-General McLaws arrived from Chancellorsville with four brigades. He posted them as follows: Kershaw on the right of Wilcox, and Wofford on the right of Kershaw; Semmes on the left of the Fourteenth Alabama (Wilcox's brigade), and Mahone on the left of Semmes.

About 5.30 o'clock, "before my command was well in position," says General McLaws, "the enemy advanced, driving our skirmishers and coming forward with loud shouts, endeavoring to force the center (Wilcox) and left center (Semmes), extending the attack somewhat to Mahone's brigade. One of Wilcox's regiments gave way, and, with the skirmishers running back, created a little confusion. But General Wilcox himself soon corrected this."

"When the front line of the enemy

reached the woods," says General Wilcox, "they made a slight halt, then giving three cheers, they came on with a rush, driving our skirmishers rapidly before them. Our men held their fire till their men (the enemy) came within less than eighty yards, and then delivered a close and terrible fire upon them, killing and wounding many and causing many to waver and give way.

"The enemy still pressed on, surrounded the schoolhouse (thirty paces south of the church) and captured an entire company of the Ninth Alabama stationed in it, and pressing hard upon the regiment in rear of the schoolhouse threw it into confusion and disorder." General Wilcox galloped out, rallied his men, and made them lie down. Four Minie balls pierced his uniform and the equipment of his horse while he was thus engaged.

"The Ninth Alabama, in rear of this (the Tenth) regiment, sprang forward

as one man, and with the rapidity of lightning restored the continuity of our line, breaking the lines of the enemy by its deadly fire and forced him to give way, and following him so that he could not rally, retook the schoolhouse, freed the captured company, and, in turn, took their captors.

"The entire line of the enemy on the right of the road (Bartlett's brigade) was repulsed, and our men followed in rapid pursuit. The regiment that had given way to the first onset of the enemy now returned to the attack and joined in pursuit.

"Thus ended the spirited conflict at Salem Church. The success, so brilliant for our men, was dearly earned by the sacrifice of the lives of seventy-five of the noble sons of Alabama and the wounding of three hundred and seventy-two.

"I now," continues General McLaws, "strengthened the left of Mahone's, which was strongly threatened, with two regiments from Wofford's

brigade on the right, and closed General Kershaw to the left, strengthening the center, supposing that the attack would be renewed; but no other assault was attempted, and as night drew on the firing ceased on both sides."

General Semmes, in his report of the battle, says: "This battle was one of the most severely contested of the war. Every regiment of the (my) brigade came up to the full measure of duty; the loss of the brigade was severe." (Report of casualties is included in losses at Chancellorsville.)

Now hear the gallant foe speak—the brave are ever truthful!

"I was ordered to push forward through the woods and engage the enemy. The regiment marched steadily to within fifty yards of the opening, when it was assailed by a heavy fire of musketry. The fire was received without creating the slightest confusion. The regiment moved forward with a cheer, Adjutant F. W. Morse bearing

the colors. The enemy opposite the center and left wing broke, but rallied again twenty or thirty yards in rear. The firing became very heavy on both sides and was maintained about five minutes; it was impossible to remain longer. The regiment fell back.*

"It was the first time the regiment had ever been in action. It went into the engagement with four hundred and fifty-three and suffered a loss of two hundred and sixty-nine." (Emory Upton, Colonel commanding, One Hundred and Twenty-first New York.)

General Brooks says: "Immediately upon entering the dense growth of shrubs and trees which concealed the enemy our troops were met by a heavy and incessant fire of musketry, yet our lines advanced until they reached the crest of the hill in the outer skirts of

*An incident. Just at this moment a riderless bay horse, a noble animal, accoutered in the blue trappings of a Union field officer of infantry, galloped out from the death-ridden wood and ran into our lines; he had a bleeding gash in his breast that did not stay his fearless charge; his bold rider carrying the colors of his regiment had been stricken to the ground and lay gory in the folds of his flag amongst his fallen comrades.

the wood, where, meeting with and being attacked by fresh and superior numbers of the enemy, our forces were finally compelled to withdraw. In this brief but sanguinary conflict this division lost nearly fifteen hundred men."

The Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania (on the right of the wood), with Brown's (First) brigade, lost all of its field officers and one hundred and forty-eight line officers and men.

General Wheaton's three regiments, Ninety-third, One Hundred and Second, and One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Pennsylvania, on the right of Brooks's, lost over three hundred men and officers.

It was such spirit made the war glorious, illumining the brows of Union and Confederate soldiers with a light that shall shine more and more unto the perfect day.

Let us halt and touch our limp hats in memory of those brave men.

GENERAL EARLY'S FORCES, MAY 4, 1863

At daylight the morning of May 4 it was discovered that Lee's and Marye's hills had been abandoned by the enemy. General Gordon advanced his brigade and took possession of Marye's Hill without opposition. Barksdale's brigade moved into line in the road behind the stone wall at the foot of Marye's and Willis's hills, to observe Fredericksburg, which was occupied by Hall's brigade of Gibbon's division. Smith's brigade was thrown over Hazel Run and took position on the plain between Marye's Hill and the second heights on the Orange Plank road (facing northwest).

Hoke's brigade, obliquing to the left (northwest), crossed the Hazel and halted at the foot of and behind Guest's Hill; Hays's brigade followed, deploying into line on Hoke's right.

General Early's forces, thus disposed, threatened the left and rear of General Sedgwick's corps.

POSITION OF GENERAL SEDGWICK'S CORPS, MAY 4, 1862

"My line was formed," says General Sedgwick, "with the left (Howe's division) resting on the river, about midway between Fredericksburg and Banks' Ford, then extending slightly beyond the Plank road (near Guest's house), where it (Newton's division) turned at right angles to the right, following the direction of the Plank road for a mile, and then again turning to the right at right angles and recrossing the Plank road (near the Toll Gate), in front of Salem Heights, my right (Brooks's division) resting where it had been placed in the engagement of the previous evening. Thus fronting in three directions, I was compelled to await attack.

"I received a dispatch from General Hooker," continues General Sedgwick, "informing me that he could not help me; that I must look to

the safety of my corps, preserve my communications with Fredericksburg and Banks' Ford, and suggesting that I fall back on the former place, or recross, in preference, at Banks' Ford. To fall back on Fredericksburg was out of the question; to adopt the other alternative, except under cover of night, was equally so, for the enemy (McLaws) still maintained his position on Salem Heights, and Early was threatening my flank and rear from the direction of Fredericksburg.

"My force yesterday was twenty-two thousand. I do not know my losses, but they were large, probably five thousand men." (Sedgwick to Hooker, 9 A. M., May 4, 1863.)

About eleven o'clock General Early directed General Smith to make a reconnaissance in the direction of the heights northwest of Marye's Hill, for the purpose of developing the position and strength of the enemy in that quarter. General Smith advanced his brigade in echelon by regiments, com-

ing in contact with Neill's brigade of Howe's division. After a spirited fight, in which he lost the colors of one of his regiments (Fifty-eighth Virginia) and more than a hundred men, he was ordered by General Early to retire.

About 11.30 A. M. General Lee arrived at Salem Church, accompanied by General R. H. Anderson and his three brigades—Wright's, Posey's, and Perry's. General Anderson was directed to move his three brigades into position on the right of Wofford's brigade, and at right angles with it, facing east, and effect a junction with General Early, to complete the continuity of the line. General Lee ordered that "at the signal—three guns fired in quick succession—the lines were to be advanced against the enemy."

Commencing at a point on Salem Heights, about three-fourths of a mile from (west) Banks' Ford, the line extended west along the ridge, from

left to right, in the following formation: Mahone, Semmes, Wilcox, Kershaw, Wofford (under McLaws, facing Brooks); on Wofford's right, Perry, Posey, Wright (under Anderson, facing Newton), and extending in a southerly direction, touching Hoke's left (Early's division); Hays's on Hoke's right, these two brigades facing Howe. Gordon, on Marye's Hill, threatened Howe's left rear; Barksdale, in the road at the foot of Marye's and Willis's hills, watched Fredericksburg. Smith was on Barksdale's left. The Confederate lines were hid by woods that skirted three sides of the field—north, west and south. Sedgwick's army was in the open.

The adverse armies, thus confronting, abide the portentous moment.

THE BATTLE OF MAY 4, 1863

The morning was fair, but toward noon a gray mist veiled the sky and

settled on the fields. There was ominous silence. Wearily the day passes; the shadows of night are falling when the Confederate brigades touch elbows, and the three signal guns boom upon the still air.

"Then heard we the thunder of the captains and the shouting": "Attention! Forward! Guides center! March!"

The rebel yell, spontaneous rising, rent the skies, and the armies mix on Spottsylvania's echoing heath. The red-mouthed artillery belches hell. The musketry growls—the voice of death. "A thousand ghosts shriek at once on the hollow wind."

Our left wing skirmishes with Brooks to entice him to linger, but he responds with a loud roar of his artillery, and, under cover of its smoke and noise, retires safely to Banks' Ford.

Kershaw and Wofford, wheeling to the left, move through the tangled wood, harassed by shell and canister

from McCartney's battery (First Massachusetts), but when they emerge the enemy is gone.

Wright's valiant Georgians circle Downman's Hill, face to the front, and, like a cyclone, rush upon the bristling foe; straight they make for Rigby's battery, scattering the covering regiment; but let Rigby speak: "The rebels attacked us with an overwhelming force, and compelled our troops to retire. I poured shell and shrapnel into them; they advanced steadily, and when about two hundred yards from the battery the regiment in my front broke and ran into the battery, frightening my horses, creating so much confusion that I could do nothing." (J. A. Rigby, captain Battery A, Maryland Artillery.) So Rigby limbered to the rear and followed Brooks.

Hoke's splendid North Carolinians and Hays's gay Louisianians were filling their canteens from the rippling Hazel when the three cannons fired;

quickly they form; spiritedly they climb Guest's Hill, "surging forward like the waves of ocean against a shaggy rock," they dash full upon Neill's brigade. General Neill, in his report, speaks thus: "The whole of Longstreet's corps [none of Longstreet's corps; Hoke, Hays and Gordon only] attacked my right and front, massing large numbers of his infantry in the ravines, which were held by their troops. After losing about one thousand men, I was obliged to retire, my regiments being unable to cope with the overwhelming numbers."

But behind Neill's was another line. Lying low upon the hill and hid by its mantling brow, Grant's brigade of Vermonters expectant wait. When Hays's and Hoke's men are but twenty paces from them they rise "fierce as ten furies, terrible as hell," then, above the din of war, was heard the command, "Fire!" A sheet of flame burst forth dense with death, tearing our serried ranks to shreds. Our men

recoil. General Hoke was badly wounded.

"No thought of flight, none of retreat, that argued fear, each on himself relied." Quick rallying, they form again in Guest's field, and, "like a returning tide," rush tumultuous on the blazing foe.

Now Gordon, advancing his sturdy Georgians, galls the flank of the stubborn foe, who retires slowly, muttering lead!

Night falls and the battle ceases.

Grant, in his report, says: "The Vermont regiments remained firm and unbroken, closely hugging the crest and literally presenting a wall of fire. The enemy rushed desperately forward and nearly gained the crest, when the regiments suddenly rose and gave him a terrible volley; the ground in our front was literally covered with the rebel dead and wounded. The enemy rallied, however, pressing farther to the left, threatening to cut us off from the river, making desperate at-

tempts to force our left. Darkness now came on and the firing ceased."

GENERAL SEDGWICK'S RETREAT ACROSS THE RAPPAHANNOCK

"By the bridges at and below Fredericksburg, General Sedgwick and a part of General Couch's corps (First and Second brigades of Gibbon's division), some twenty-five thousand men with their artillery, passed over to the attack.

"By the two bridges at Banks' Ford, our left wing, under General Sedgwick, of about seventeen thousand men and their trains, and fifty-five pieces of artillery, repassed the river in about forty-five minutes, between two o'clock and three o'clock A. M. on the 5th (May, 1863)."—B. W. Benham, Brigadier, commanding Engineers.

These were the three closing acts of a great drama. "The Campaign of Chancellorsville" was an epic poem,

written on the fair brow of Virginia, in the mingled blood of the sons of the Eleven Confederate Sisters.

And sad, also, is it to tell, that in every State of the Union, from Maine to Minnesota, there were many mothers weeping for their sons who lay forever still on Virginia's sanguinary lap.

ABSTRACTS OF REPORTS

THE subjoined abstracts from reports of the operations of the Union Army of the Potomac will give the reader a general idea of the entire Chancellorsville Campaign, of which the Battles of Fredericksburg to Salem Church are especially written about in the foregoing story.

Executive Mansion,
Washington, D. C., January 26, 1863.

Major-General Hooker.

GENERAL: I have placed you at the head of the Army of the Potomac. Of course I have done this upon what appears to me to be sufficient reasons, and yet I trust it best for you to know that there are some things in regard to which I am not quite satisfied with you. I believe you to be a brave and skilful soldier, which, of course, I like. I also believe you do not mix politics with your pro-

fession, in which you are right. You have confidence in yourself, which is a valuable if not indispensable quality. You are ambitious, which, within reasonable bounds, does good rather than harm; but I think that during General Burnside's command of the army you have taken counsel of your ambition and thwarted him as much as you could, in which you did a great wrong to the country and to a most meritorious and honorable brother officer. I have heard, in such a way as to believe it, of your recently saying that both the Army and the Government needed a dictator. Of course it was not for this, but in spite of it, that I have given you command. Only those generals who gain successes can set up dictators. What I now ask of you is military success, and I will risk the dictatorship. The Government will support you to the utmost of its ability, which is neither more nor less than it has done and will do for all commanders. I much fear that the spirit which you have aided to infuse into the army, of criticising their commander and withholding confidence from him, will now turn upon you. I shall assist you as far as I can to put it down. Neither you nor Napoleon, if he were alive again, could get any good out of an army while such a spirit prevails in it. And now beware of rashness, but with energy and sleepless vigilance go forward and give us victories.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
Camp near Falmouth, Va., January 26, 1863.
General Orders No. 1.

By direction of the President of the United States, the undersigned assumes command of the Army of the Potomac. He enters upon the discharge of the duties imposed by this trust with a just appreciation of their responsibility.

Since the formation of this army he has been identified with its history. He has shared with you its glories and reverses with no other desire than that these relations might remain unchanged until its destiny should be accomplished. In the record of your achievements there is much to be proud of, and with the blessing of God we will contribute something to the renown of our arms and the success of our cause. To secure these ends, your commander will require the cheerful and zealous co-operation of every officer and soldier in the army.

In equipment, intelligence, and valor the enemy is our inferior; let us never hesitate to give him battle wherever we can find him.

The undersigned only gives expression to the feelings of this army when he conveys to our late commander, Major-General Burnside, the most cordial good wishes for his future.

My staff will be announced as soon as organized. JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding Army of the Potomac.

Washington, D. C., January 31, 1863.
Maj.-Gen. Joseph Hooker:

In regard to the operations of your own army, you can best judge when and where it can move to the greatest advantage, keeping in view always the importance of covering Washington and Harper's Ferry directly or by so operating as to be able to punish any force of the enemy sent against them.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Camp near Falmouth, Va., April 11, 1863.
His Excellency the President of the United States:

After giving the subject my best reflection, I have concluded that I will have more chance of afflicting a heavier blow upon the enemy by turning his position to my right, and, if practical, to sever his connections with Richmond with my dragoon force and such light batteries as it may be deemed advisable to send with them. I am apprehensive that he will retire from before me the moment I shall succeed in crossing the river, and over the shortest line to Richmond, and thus escape being seriously crippled. I hope that when the cavalry have established themselves on the line between him and Richmond they will be able to hold him and check his retreat until I can fall on his rear, or, if not that, I will compel him to fall back by the way of

Culpeper and Gordonsville, over a longer line than my own, with his supplies cut off. The cavalry will probably cross the river above the Rappahannock Bridge, thence to Culpeper and Gordonsville and across to the Aquia Railroad, somewhere in the vicinity of Hanover Court House. I have given directions for the cavalry to be in readiness to commence the movement on Monday morning next.

I hope, Mr. President, that this plan will receive your approval.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

Camp near Falmouth, Va., April 15, 1863.

His Excellency the President of the United States:

A letter from Major-General Stoneman, dated 1 P. M. yesterday, informs me that his command will be across the river before daylight this morning (the 15th). Meanwhile, I shall do what I can to keep the enemy up to their works in my front, and, if they should fall back, shall pursue them with all the vigor practicable.

Up to late last night the enemy appeared to have no suspicions of our designs. I am rejoiced that Stoneman had two good days to go up the river, and was enabled to cross it before it had become too much swollen. If he can reach his position the

storm and mud will not damage our prospects.

Very respectfully, etc.,
JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

Executive Mansion,
Washington, D. C., April 15, 1863.

Major-General Hooker:

It is now 10.15 P. M. An hour ago I received your letter of this morning, and a few hours later your dispatch of this evening. The rain and mud, of course, were to be calculated upon. General S. is not moving rapidly enough to make the expedition come to anything. He has now been out three days, two of which were unusually fair weather, and all three without hindrance from the enemy, and yet he is not twenty-five miles from where he started. To reach his point he still has sixty to go, another river (the Rapidan) to cross, and will be hindered by the enemy. By arithmetic, how many days will it take him to do it?

I do not know that any better can be done, but I greatly fear it is another failure already. Write me often, I am very anxious.

Yours truly,
A. LINCOLN.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
April 17, 1863—9 A. M.

His Excellency the President of the United States.

MR. PRESIDENT: I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of the night of the 15th instant, and, in compliance with your request, transmit herewith a letter from General Stoneman, dated the 16th instant.

His failure to accomplish speedily the objects of his expedition is a source of deep regret to me, but I can find nothing in his conduct of it requiring my animadversion or censure. We cannot control the elements.

I do not regard him out of position, as, in case of an advance of so large an army, it would be necessary to throw the main portion of his forces well on to my right flank. It would take until doomsday to pass all this army over one or two lines. No one, Mr. President, can be more anxious than myself to relieve your cares and anxieties. We have no reason to suppose that the enemy have any knowledge of the design of General Stoneman's movement.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
April 22, 1863.

Major-General Stoneman,
Commanding Cavalry Corps,
Warrenton Junction, Va.:

Your telegram of this date received. It is hoped the arrival of the trains has enabled you to replenish your supplies, both of subsistence and forage, and it is expected that you are again prepared for a forward movement. The Commanding General therefore directs that you proceed across the river to-morrow morning, if the fords are practicable. The General does not look for one moment's delay in your advance from any cause that human effort can obviate, and directs me to add that this army is awaiting your movement.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Camp near Falmouth, Va., April 26, 1863.

Commanding Officers, Eleventh and Twelfth Corps:

I am directed by the Major-General commanding to inform you that the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps, in the order named, will begin their march at sunrise to-morrow morning, the former to encamp as near Kelly's Ford as practicable without discovering itself to the enemy, and the latter as nearly in its rear as circumstances will permit.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Camp near Falmouth, Va.,
April 27, 1863—1 A. M.

The Commanding Officer, Fifth Corps:

The Major-General commanding directs me to inform you that your corps is to march to-morrow, so as to reach the vicinity of Kelly's Ford by Tuesday at 4 o'clock. The corps of Generals Slocum and Howard take the same direction (and will be on the same route, probably) from Hartwood.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Camp near Falmouth, Va., April 27, 1863.

Commanding Officer, Second Corps.

GENERAL: The Major-General commanding directs that you move at sunrise to-morrow morning two divisions of your corps, to encamp as near as practicable to Banks' Ford without exposing your camps to the view of the enemy; that one brigade and one battery of one of these divisions take position at United States Ford; the movement to be made quietly. The division left in camp should be the one whose camps are most exposed to the view of the enemy.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Washington, D. C.,
April 27, 1863—3.30 P. M.

Major-General Hooker:

How does it look now?

A. LINCOLN.

April 27, 1863—5 P. M.

President Lincoln:

I am not sufficiently advanced to give an opinion. We are busy. Will tell you all soon as I can, and have it satisfactory.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

Camp near Falmouth, Va., April 27, 1863.

Major-General Sedgwick, Commanding, etc.:

The Major-General commanding directs that the Sixth Corps, Major-General Sedgwick; First Corps, Major-General Reynolds, and Third Corps, Major-General Sickles, put themselves in position to cross the river as follows: Sixth Corps at Franklin's Crossing; First Corps at the crossing below at Pollock's Mill Creek, and the Third Corps as a support to cross at either point. These movements to be made so that the respective corps are in position—the First and Sixth on or before 3.30 A. M. of the 29th and the Third Corps on or before 4.30 A. M. of the 29th.

General Sedgwick, pending the operation, will be charged with the command of the three corps mentioned, and will make a dem-

onstration in full force on Wednesday morning upon the enemy's defences, with a view of securing the Telegraph road.

In event of the enemy detaching any considerable part of his forces against the troops operating at the west of Fredericksburg, he will attack and carry their works at all hazards, and establish his force on the Telegraph road, cutting off communication by the enemy in order to prevent their turning his position on that road. In case the enemy should fall back on Richmond he will pursue them with vigor, fighting them whenever and wherever he can come up with them.

The General will give such other instructions as may seem to him necessary to carry out the plans and wishes of the Major-General commanding.

By command of Major-General Hooker:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
Morrisville, Va., April 28, 1863.

Major-General Slocum,
Commanding Eleventh and Twelfth Corps:

I am directed by the Major-General commanding to inform you that so long as the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps are operating on the same line, you will exercise the command of both.

The General directs that the Eleventh Corps cross to the opposite side of the river

to-night, and that the Twelfth Corps commence crossing at daylight to-morrow morning, and to be thrown over with all possible rapidity, and both corps march by the most direct route without delay, and seize the bridge, if standing, and the ford at Germanna Mills.

Major-General Meade (Fifth Corps) will move on almost a parallel line at the same time, and will be in easy communication with you. He will cross at Ely's Ford.

When the Fifth Corps is across, push on with both of your corps to Chancellorsville, at which point the three corps will come together, and which you will command by virtue of your seniority.

The enemy have a brigade holding the United States Ford, which they will abandon as soon as they hear of your approach; this will open the United States Ford to us, when bridges will at once be thrown across the river.

If your cavalry is well advanced from Chancellorsville, you will be able to ascertain whether or not the enemy is detaching forces from behind Fredericksburg to resist your advance. If not in any considerable force, the General desires that you will endeavor to advance at all hazards, securing a position on the Plank road and uncovering Banks' Ford, which is also defended by a brigade of the rebel infantry and a battery. If the enemy should be greatly reinforced you will then select a strong position, and compel him

to attack you on your own ground. You will have nearly forty thousand men, which is more than he can spare to send against you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. L. CANDLER,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

Balloon in the Air, April 29, 1863.

Major-General Butterfield,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL: The enemy's line of battle is formed in the edge of the woods, at the foot of the heights, from opposite Fredericksburg to some distance to the left of our lower crossing. Their line appears quite thin, compared with our force. Their tents all remain as heretofore, as far as I can see.

T. S. C. LOWE,
Chief of Aeronauts.

Camp near Falmouth, Va.,
April 30, 1863—12.30 P. M.

Commanding Officer, Third Corps:

Upon receipt of this order you will proceed with your corps, without delay, by the shortest road, concealed from view of the enemy, to the United States Ford. The greatest promptness in executing this movement and arriving at your destination is expected of you. After crossing you will take up your line of march toward Chancellorsville.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Fort Monroe, Va., April 30, 1863.
Major-General Hooker,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

We are invested at Suffolk by a superior force.

A successful movement on your part will be of great service to us by preventing Longstreet from being further reinforced, and may compel him to withdraw.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

April 30, 1863—12.30 P. M.
Major-General John A. Dix,
Fort Monroe, Va.:

The enemy has need of every man here. He has his hands full. Rely on this. I can say no more.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

Chancellorsville, Va.,
May 1, 1863—8.45 P. M.
Major-General Butterfield,
(Headquarters Camp near Falmouth, Va.):

. . . Telegraph all the information you have concerning the reinforcement of the enemy from Richmond, to Washington, as it may have an important bearing on movements elsewhere. Say that all the enemy's cavalry are in my immediate presence, which, I trust, will enable Stoneman to do a land-office business in the interior.

I think the enemy in his desperation will be compelled to attack me on my own ground. I am all right.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

Balloon in the Air,
May 1, 1863—12.30 P. M.

Major-General Sedgwick,
Commanding Left Wing, Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL: In a west-northwest direction, about twelve miles, an engagement is going on.

T. S. C. LOWE,
Chief of Aeronauts, Army of the Potomac.

Balloon in the Air,
May 1, 1863—2.15 P. M.

Major-General Sedgwick,
Commanding Left Wing.

GENERAL: The enemy opposite here remain the same as last reported. Immense volumes of smoke are rising where the battle is going on opposite United States Ford. A large force must be engaged on both sides.

Very respectfully, etc.,
T. S. C. LOWE,
Chief of Aeronauts, Army of the Potomac.

Chancellorsville, Va.,
May 2, 1863—1.55 A. M.

Major-General Butterfield:

Direct all of the bridges to be taken up at Franklin's Crossing and below before daylight, and for Reynolds's (First) Corps to march at once, with pack train, to report to headquarters.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

May 2, 1863—7.45 A. M.

General Butterfield:

Heavy cannonading has just commenced in a westerly direction about twelve miles.

T. S. C. LOWE,
Aeronaut.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 2, 1863—10.10 P. M.

Major-General Sedgwick:

The Major-General commanding directs that you cross the Rappahannock at Fredericksburg on receipt of this order, and at once take up your line of march on the Chancellorsville road until you connect with him. You will attack and destroy any force you may fall in with on the road, and march to be in the vicinity of the General at daylight. You will probably fall upon the rear of the forces commanded by General Lee, and be-

tween you and the Major-General commanding he expects to use him up.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Camp near Falmouth, Va., May 2, 1863.
General Sedgwick:

I send a contraband who knows the Plank road leading to Chancellorsville. Push on without delay. I have ordered Gibbon over the river to-night, and to avoid interference with your column, will have the Pontoon bridge laid at the Lacy house for him. Look out that your troops do not come in contact with his.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Camp near Falmouth, Va.,
May 2, 1863—10.20 A. M.
Brigadier-General Gibbon:

I have hardly time to post you fully in regard to the condition of affairs. As matters stand now, General Hooker is at Chancellorsville with the Third, Fifth, Eleventh and Twelfth, with two divisions of the Second Corps. Reynolds is en route there from the lower crossing. Sedgwick will be at the lower crossing alone after Reynolds is gone. Twenty-eight or thirty pieces of the Reserve Artillery are at Banks' Ford, with one of your regiments and some engineers. Two

bridges ready to be thrown across whenever the ford is uncovered.

Stoneman's cavalry is supposed to be in the enemy's rear, on the line of his railroad. Sedgwick has one division of the enemy in front of him, and the balance are in front of General Hooker.

Very respectfully,
DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Camp near Falmouth, Va.,
May 2, 1863.

Brigadier-General Gibbon:

Your command must cross the river to Fredericksburg to-night. Pontoon bridge now at the Lacy house. Get under way soon. General Sedgwick is ordered to move through Fredericksburg toward Chancellorsville. Look out you do not come in contact with him. You must see to the laying of the bridges.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

United States Ford, May 3, 1863.
(Received at 8.45 A. M.)

General Butterfield,
Headquarters, Camp Falmouth:

A most terrible, bloody conflict has raged since daylight. Enemy in great force in our front and on the right, but at this moment

we are repulsing him on all sides. Carnage is fearful. General Hooker is safe so far. Berry is killed. I return to the front, but will keep you advised when in my power.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 3, 1863—8.50 A. M.

Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States:

Though not directed or specially authorized to do so by General Hooker, I think it not improper that I should advise you that a battle is in progress.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Chief of Staff.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 3, 1863—12.45 P. M.

General Butterfield:

I think we have had the most terrible battle ever witnessed on earth. I think our victory will be certain, but the General told me he would say nothing just yet to Washington, except that he is doing well. In an hour or two the matter will be a fixed fact. I believe the enemy is in flight now, but we are not sure.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 3, 1863—1.30 P. M.

His Excellency Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States:

From all reports yet collected the battle has been most fierce and terrible. Loss heavy on both sides. General Hooker slightly but not severely wounded. He has preferred thus far that nothing should be reported and does not know of this, but I cannot refrain from saying this much to you. You may expect his dispatch in a few hours, which will give the result.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General.

Washington, D. C.,
May 3, 1863—4.35 P. M.

Major-General Butterfield:

Where is Hooker? Where is Sedgwick? Where is Stoneman?

A. LINCOLN.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 3, 1863—4.40 P. M.

His Excellency Abraham Lincoln, President, etc.:

General Hooker is at Chancellorsville. General Sedgwick, with fifteen thousand to twenty thousand men, at a point three or four miles out from Fredericksburg, on the road to Chancellorsville. Lee is between.

Stoneman has not been heard from. This is the situation at this hour from latest reports, 4.30 P. M.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 3, 1863—3.30 P. M.
(Received 4 P. M.)

His Excellency Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States:

We have had a desperate fight yesterday and to-day, which has resulted in no success to us, having lost a position of two lines, which had been selected for our defence. It is now 1.30 o'clock (P. M.), and there is still some firing of artillery. If Sedgwick could have gotten up, there could have been but one result. I cannot tell when it will end. We will endeavor to do our best. My troops are in good spirits. We have fought desperately to-day. No general ever commanded a more devoted army.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General.

May 3, 1863—2.35 A. M.

Major-General Sedgwick:

An aide just arrived from General Hooker. Everything in the world depends upon the rapidity and promptness of your movement. Push everything.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 3, 1863—10.35 A. M.

General Hooker:

Sedgwick at this moment commences his assault. He is on our old ground of December 13. The force in his front is small but active. Will post you speedily as to result.

BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

May 3, 1863—10.50 A. M.

General Hooker:

Am signaled that Sedgwick has carried Marye's Heights and, officer thinks, captured the guns.

BUTTERFIELD.

May 3, 1863—11.10 A. M.

General Hooker:

First range of hills ours. Batteries and prisoners taken. Enemy retreating.

BUTTERFIELD.

May 3, 1863—12.32 P. M.

General Hooker:

To the left and rear of Howison house the enemy have taken a position on Telegraph road, and are holding our forces in check. They are hotly contesting the ground at this point.

BUTTERFIELD.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 3, 1863—7.15 P.M.

Major-General Hooker:

General Sedgwick was attacking the enemy on a ridge at Salem Church, six and one-half miles from Chancellorsville, the enemy making a stand at that point. Infantry fire heavier than hitherto, and our men fall back a little in the center. Heavy infantry fire reported. Time 6.05 to 6.15 o'clock.

BUTTERFIELD.

May 4, 1863—12 M.

Col. Ambrose Thompson,
Quartermaster, Aquia, Va.:

Keep as much of the public property afloat as you can until further orders. Be prepared to act on your own judgment at short notice. See that your depot is constantly prepared.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

United States Ford, W. Va., May 4, 1863.

Col. D. W. Rucker,
Quartermaster's Department:

Ship no more horses or other stores until further notice. Please advise Captains Stoddard and Ferguson. My reasons are good.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 4, 1863—12 M.

Capt. William H. Rankins,
At Old Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Do not come up here yourself. Perhaps no one had better come just yet. Keep quiet; do not make any excitement. We are in great trouble, but we shall fight out. Do not communicate with Washington on the subject.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

Headquarters Sixth Corps,
May 4, 1863—9 A. M.

Major-General Hooker:

I am occupying the same position as last night. I have secured my communications with Banks' Ford. *The enemy are in possession of the heights of Fredericksburg in force.* They appear strongly in our front, and are making efforts to drive us back. I do not know my losses, but they were large, probably 5,000 men. It depends upon the condition and position of your force whether I can sustain myself here.

JOHN SEDGWICK.

Washington, D. C.,
May 4, 1863—3.10 P. M.

Major-General Hooker:

We have news here that the enemy has reoccupied heights above Fredericksburg. Is that so?

A. LINCOLN.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 4, 1863—4.20 P. M.

His Excellency the President:

I am informed that it is so, but attach no importance to it.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General.

May 5, 1863—12.30 A. M.

Major-General Butterfield, Chief of Staff:

Communication with General Sedgwick is at present full and open by two bridges. . . .

His main body is, however, below the crest of the hill, opposite the ford, under full fire of artillery. I consider his command in great danger.

R. O. TYLER,
Brigadier-General.

Headquarters, May 5, 1863—1 A. M.

General Sedgwick:

. . . Withdraw. Cover the river, and prevent any force crossing. Acknowledge this.

By command of General Hooker:

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD.

In the Field, May 5, 1863—11 A. M.

His Excellency Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States:

General Hooker is not at this moment able, from pressing duties, to write of the condition of affairs. He deems it his duty that you should be advised. The cavalry, as yet

learned, have failed in executing their orders. . . . General Sedgwick failed in the execution of his orders, and was compelled to retire, and crossed the river at Banks' Ford last night. . . .

The First, Third, Fifth, Eleventh and Twelfth and two divisions of the Second Corps are now on the south bank of the Rappahannock, intrenched between Hunting Run and Scott's Dam. Position is strong, but circumstances, which in time will be fully explained, make it expedient, in the General's judgment, that he should retire from this position to the north bank of the Rappahannock for his defensible position. Among these is danger to his communication by possibility of the enemy crossing river on our right flank and imperiling this army. He may cross to-night, but hopes to be attacked in this position.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Near Chancellorsville, Va., May 5, 1863.
Commanding Officer, Confederate Forces,
Chancellorsville, Va.:

I would most respectfully request the privilege of sending a burial party on the field of Chancellorsville to bury the dead and care for the wounded officers and soldiers of my command.

Very respectfully, etc.,
JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

Headquarters Army of Northern Virginia,
May 6, 1863.

Maj.-Gen. Joseph Hooker,
Commanding Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter of yesterday requesting permission to send a burial party to attend to your dead and wounded on the battlefield of Chancellorsville. I regret that their position is such, being immediately within our lines, that the necessities of war forbid my compliance with your request, which under other circumstances it would give me pleasure to grant. I will accord to your dead and wounded the same attention which I bestow upon my own; but if there is anything which your medical director here requires which we cannot provide, he shall have my permission to receive from you such medical supplies as you may think proper to furnish. Consideration for your wounded prompts me to add that, from what I learn, their comfort would be greatly promoted by additional medical attendance and medical supplies.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant, R. E. LEE,
General.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
May 6, 1863—1 P. M.

His Excellency Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States:

I have just returned from above, and find here your two dispatches to General Hooker,

and one from him to me, directing me to telegraph you that the army has recrossed the river; that the bridges are up, and that all are under orders to return to camp.

DAN'L BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
Camp near Falmouth, Va., May 6, 1863.
General Orders No. 49.

The Major-General commanding tenders to the army his congratulations on its achievements of the last seven days. If it has not accomplished all that was expected, the reasons are well known to the army. It is sufficient to say they were of a character not to be foreseen or prevented by human sagacity or resource.

In withdrawing from the south bank of the Rappahannock before delivering a general battle to our adversaries, the army has given renewed evidence of its confidence in itself and its fidelity to the principles it represents. In fighting at a disadvantage, we would have been recreant to our trust, to ourselves, our cause and our country.

Proudly loyal, and conscious of its strength, the Army of the Potomac will give or decline battle whenever its interests or honor may demand. It will also be the guardian of its own history and its own fame.

By our celerity and secrecy of movement our advance and passage of the rivers were

undisputed, and on our withdrawal not a rebel ventured to follow.

The events of the last week may swell with pride the heart of every officer and soldier of this army. We have added new luster to its former renown. We have made long marches, crossed rivers, surprised the enemy in his intrenchments, and whenever we have fought have inflicted heavier blows than we have received.

We have taken from the enemy 5,000 prisoners, captured and brought off seven pieces of artillery, fifteen colors, placed *hors de combat* 18,000 of his chosen troops; destroyed his depots filled with vast amounts of stores; deranged his communications; captured prisoners within the fortifications of his capital, and filled his country with fear and consternation.

We have no other regret than that caused by the loss of our brave companions, and in this we are consoled by the conviction that they have fallen in the holiest cause ever submitted to the arbitrament of battle.

By command of Major-General Hooker:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

May 7, 1863.

Major-General Hooker.

MY DEAR SIR: The recent movement of your army is ended without effecting its object, except some important breakings of the

enemy's communication. What next? If possible, I would be very glad of another movement early enough to give us some benefit from the fact of the enemy's communication being broken; but neither for this reason nor any other do I wish anything done in desperation or rashness. An early movement would also help to supersede the bad moral effect of the recent one, which is said to be considerably injurious. Have you already in your mind a plan wholly or partially formed? If you have, prosecute it without interference from me. If you have not, please inform me, so that I, incompetent as I may be, can try and assist in the formation of some plan for the army.

Yours, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Headquarters Army of Northern Virginia,
May 7, 1863.

Major-General Hooker,
Commanding Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL: The reasons that prevented me from complying with your request with reference to your wounded no longer existing, I have the honor to inform you that you can extend to them such attentions as they may require. All persons whom it may be necessary to send within my lines for this purpose will remain until the wounded are finally disposed of. The burial of your dead has already been provided for.

I have directed that those of your wounded who desire it shall be paroled and transferred within your lines, should you be willing to receive them: those in the vicinity of Chancellorsville at the United States Ford, and those on the battlefield of Salem Church, at Banks' Ford or Fredericksburg. As your wounded generally occupy the few houses in the vicinity of the late battlefield, the transportation of this army cannot be employed in conveying them to the river until my own wounded have been removed to a place of shelter. As soon as this can be accomplished I will cause such of your wounded as may desire to be paroled to be delivered at the points above indicated, upon being advised of your willingness to receive them. In the meantime they shall have such care as is given to my own.

I have the honor to inclose a copy of my letter of yesterday, in case the original may not have reached you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
Camp near Falmouth, Va., May 7, 1863—
8 P. M.

General R. E. Lee,
Commanding Confederate Forces
at Fredericksburg, Va.:

I have the honor to acknowledge the re-

ceipt of your two communications of May 6 and 7 this moment. If agreeable to you, I would like to send medical supplies and attendance to my wounded, and at such times as the state of the fords designated in your communication, viz., United States and Banks' fords. I will, with your consent, send parties to those fords with supplies at an early hour to-morrow. The swollen state of the Rappahannock probably preventing the crossing of any vehicles with supplies, I shall have to depend upon you for transportation for them. I will receive the wounded at the points named as soon as it can be done. I will send an officer to Chancellorsville, with your consent, to arrange the details, which, judging from your letter, with the state of the river, cannot now be determined by correspondence. Upon an intimation from you as to any deficiency in your immediate necessities of medical supplies of your own, by reason of their use for my wounded or other cause, I shall with pleasure replace them. I would be obliged for approximate information concerning the number of wounded, that a sufficient amount of supplies may be forwarded. I would be under obligations for an early reply.

Very respectfully, etc.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,

Major-General Commanding.

Headquarters Army of Northern Virginia,
May 11, 1863.

Major-General Joseph Hooker,
Commanding Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL: The Medical Director of this army advises me that your wounded will avoid inconvenience and suffering if taken directly from the different hospitals in your own ambulances, instead of being subjected to the change of conveyance incident to their removal to the river by transportation.

Should you see proper to adopt the suggestion, your ambulances will be permitted to cross the Rappahannock at the United States Ford to remove the wounded from Chancellorsville, at Banks' Ford for those at Salem Church, and at Fredericksburg for those in the vicinity.

Instructions have been issued to the commanding officers at the points above mentioned to give free passage to your trains, and each of them, upon crossing the river, will be conducted to and placed under directions of your medical officers left in charge of your wounded at the hospital to which it is destined.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE,
General.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
Camp near Falmouth, Va., May 14, 1863.

General R. E. Lee,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

On learning yesterday afternoon, through my medical officers, who have returned from your lines, that permission would be given to throw a bridge across the river at United States Ford, to enable our ambulance trains to proceed to the hospitals in the vicinity of Chancellorsville for our wounded, I at once gave directions to have the bridge laid at an early hour this morning. I regret that I was not sooner informed that this facility would be afforded. The bridge will be used for no other purpose than bringing away the wounded, and, when this has been accomplished, will be immediately removed and returned to the place from which it was taken.

Very respectfully,
JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

Forces Under General Hooker in Chancellorsville Campaign.

Abstract from Tri-monthly Return of the Army of the Potomac, Major-General Joseph Hooker, U. S. Army, Commanding, for April 30, 1863.

Aggregate officers and men present for duty (only those who are actually available for the line of battle):

INFANTRY.

1st Corps (Reynolds)	15,782
2d Corps (Couch)	15,907
3d Corps (Sickles)	17,568
5th Corps (Meade)	14,867
6th Corps (Sedgwick)	22,427
11th Corps (Howard)	12,170
12th Corps (Slocum)	12,929

CAVALRY.

11,079.

ARTILLERY.

412 Guns—9,543 Men.

General Summary of Casualties in the Union Forces during the Chancellorsville (Va.) Campaign, April 27—May 11, 1863.

Officers and men killed	1,606
Officers and men wounded	9,762
Officers and men missing	5,919

Epitome of General Hooker's Plan for Chancellorsville Campaign.

Abstract from Report of Brigadier-General Warren, Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army of the Potomac.

May 12, 1863.

At the time operations resulting in the battle of Chancellorsville and those attending it began, the enemy occupied in strong force the heights south of the Rappahannock River, from Skinker's Neck to Banks' Ford, having continuous lines of infantry parapets throughout (a distance of about twenty miles), his troops being disposed as to be readily concentrated on any threatened point. Interspersed along their lines of intrenchments were battery epaulments advantageously located for sweeping the hill slopes and bottom lands, on which our troops would have to march to assault. To turn the enemy's right flank, and cross the river so as to gain the heights below his intrenchments, required a secret move of pontoon trains and artillery for more than twenty miles. Favorable conditions of approach to the river from either side first present themselves about six miles by the road we had to take above Fredericksburg, at a place called Banks' Ford,

not then fordable. A place of such importance was guarded by the enemy with the utmost care. The obstacles here were so great to our forcing a passage that the enemy forebore to plant a redoubt on the summit of the hill, thus, as it were, inviting us to try it.

The next point on the enemy's left which offered a practicable approach to the stream was at the United States Mine Ford.

The plan which the Commanding General (General Hooker) formed was kept a profound secret until its successful initiative disclosed it to friend and foe. Three corps—the Fifth, Eleventh and Twelfth—were put in motion April 27 to pass around the enemy's left flank, crossing the Rappahannock at Kelly's Ford, a distance of thirty miles from Fredericksburg, thence to cross the Rapidan by Germanna and Ely's fords. The Rappahannock was successfully crossed by the morning of the 28th on pontoon bridges, with but slight opposition from a small observing force.

To divert the enemy's attention from the main movement, the passage of the Rappahannock was forced by the Sixth Corps (General Sedgwick) opposite our left at a place known as Franklin's Crossing (on Bernard's Farm) on the night of April 28th. Two pontoon bridges were constructed here by General Benham and the troops crossed in force during the day.

At 5 P. M. on the 29th I set out, as directed, for the United States Mine Ford, to as-

sist Major Spaulding, of the Engineer Brigade, if necessary, in throwing the pontoon bridge across at that place. On the morning of the 30th I reconnoitered the approaches to the crossing place. . . . The work on the road was pushed with all possible dispatch, and by 1 P. M. was made practicable for artillery and pontoon wagons. By 3 P. M. the bridge was laid and the Second Corps (Couch) was crossing the river. Great was the enthusiasm of the men as they found we had turned these formidable intrenchments without losing a man, and gained the advantage of meeting the enemy in an open field. . . .

The advantage of the initiative in a wooded country like this, obscuring all movements, was incalculable, and so far we had improved them. . . . On the morning of Saturday, May 2, the enemy, from the heights on our left, opened fire with his guns on our wagons in the open field near Chancellorsville. . . . He also made his appearance on the Plank road. . . . During the forenoon the enemy made several feints of attacks by a sudden rush upon our lines, drawing our fire, and getting the location of our line and its strength. These operations were repeated at intervals, gradually extending to our right. Later in the day the enemy became visible from our line to the right of Fairview, moving off still to our right. General Sickles, with two of his divisions of the Third Corps, was sent out to make a demon-

stration against this body, and he succeeded in capturing numerous prisoners cut off from the rear of Jackson. General Pleasonton, with his cavalry and artillery, also moved out in this same direction, following General Sickles, and the effect of this was to place a considerable force of ours between the two wings of the rebel army. . . .

The flank move in our very presence which General Lee had decided upon, and the execution of which he had intrusted to General Jackson, was one of great risk under almost any circumstances. On the present occasion it offered more advantages than it generally does. His army found its line of intrenchments, on which so much labor had been bestowed, and on the strength of which he had so far relied as to submit to the detaching of a large force under General Longstreet for operations south of James River, most unexpectedly turned and rendered of no value, and he was in the presence of an army greatly outnumbering his. Advancing, then, promptly as he had done on the 1st, he was prepared to dispute with us the possession of Banks' Ford, which would have brought the two wings of our army together and gained time. Its conception was well adapted to the situation, and its execution by General Jackson was excellent, though the lateness of the day in which his blow was struck gave him but little advantage of the maneuver.

Jackson's Flank Attack.

Abstract from Report of Major-General Carl Schurz, Commanding Third Division, Eleventh Corps.

Our right wing stood completely in the air . . . with no reliable cavalry to make reconnaissances, in a forest thick enough not to permit any view to the front, flank or rear, but not thick enough to prevent the approach of the enemy's troops.

It was almost impossible to maneuver some of our regiments under fire of the enemy, hemmed in as they were on the old turnpike by embankments and rifle pits in front and thick woods in rear. . . . And this old Turnpike road was at the same time the only line of communication we had between the different parts of our front. Such was the position of the Eleventh Corps on May 2. . . . It was nearly 6 o'clock when we suddenly heard a sharp artillery and musketry fire on our extreme right. I at once ordered all regiments within my reach to change front. To change the front of the regiments, deployed in line on the old Turnpike road, was extremely difficult. . . . The officers had hardly had time to give a command when

almost the whole of McLean's* brigade, mixed up with a number of Von Gilsa's† men, came rushing down the road in wild confusion, and the battery of the First Division broke in upon my right. The confused mass of guns, caissons, horses, and men broke lengthwise through the ranks of my regiments deployed on the line in the road. . . . The whole line deployed on the old turnpike, facing south, was rolled up and swept away in a moment. . . . The Twenty-sixth Wisconsin, flanked on both sides and exposed to a terrible fire in front, maintained the unequal contest for a considerable time, nor did it fall back until I ordered it to do so. . . . The enemy was now pouring in great force upon our right and left . . . and the position in and near the Church grove could no longer be held. . . . Behind the rifle-pit there was a confused mass of men belonging to all the divisions. . . . The enemy advancing on our right and left with rapidity the artillery ceased firing, and soon the rifle-pit was given up. . . . The retreat now became general, and the confusion increased as the troops marched through the woods.

The losses suffered by my division in the action of May 2 were, in killed, wounded and missing, nine hundred and fifty-three.

* McLean's and Von Gilsa's Brigades of First Division.
† Howard's Eleventh Corps.

Gen. Robert E. Lee's Report of Chancellorsville Campaign.

Headquarters Army of Northern Virginia,
September 21, 1863.

GENERAL: After the battle of Fredericksburg the army remained encamped on the south side of the Rappahannock until the latter part of April. The Federal army occupied the north side of the river opposite Fredericksburg, extending to the Potomac. Two brigades of (R. H.) Anderson's division —those of Generals (William) Mahone and (Carnot) Posey—were stationed near the United States Mine (or Bark Mill) Ford, and a third, under General (C. M.) Wilcox, guarded Banks' Ford. The cavalry was distributed on both flanks, Fitzhugh Lee's brigade picketing the Rappahannock above the mouth of the Rapidan and W. H. F. Lee's near Port Royal. Hampton's brigade had been sent into the interior to recruit. General (James) Longstreet, with two divisions of his corps, was detached for service south of James River in February, and did not rejoin the army until after the battle of Chancellorsville.

With the exception of the engagement between Fitzhugh Lee's brigade and the ene-

my's cavalry near Kelly's Ford on March 17, of which a brief report has been already forwarded to the Department, nothing of interest transpired during this period of inactivity.

On April 14 intelligence was received that the enemy's cavalry was concentrating on the upper Rappahannock. Their efforts to establish themselves on the south side of the river were successfully resisted by Fitzhugh Lee's brigade and two regiments of W. H. F. Lee's, the whole under the immediate command of General Stuart.

About the 21st, small bodies of infantry appeared at Kelly's Ford and the Rappahannock bridge, and almost at the same time a demonstration was made opposite Port Royal, where a party of infantry crossed the river about the 23d. These movements were evidently intended to conceal the design of the enemy, but, taken in connection with the reports of scouts, indicated that the Federal army, now commanded by Major-General Hooker, was about to resume active operations.

At 5.30 A. M. on April 28 the enemy crossed the Rappahannock in boats near Fredericksburg, and, driving off the pickets on the river, proceeded to lay down a pontoon bridge a short distance below the mouth of Deep Run. Later in the forenoon another bridge was constructed about a mile below the first. A considerable force crossed on these bridges during the day and was massed

out of view under the high banks of the river. The bridges, as well as the troops, were effectually protected from our artillery fire by the depth of the river bed and the narrowness of the stream, while the batteries on the opposite heights completely commanded the wide plain between our lines and the river. As in the first battle of Fredericksburg, it was thought best to select positions with a view to resist the advance of the enemy, rather than incur the heavy loss that would attend any attempt to prevent his crossing. Our dispositions were accordingly made as on the former occasion.

No demonstration was made opposite any other part of our lines at Fredericksburg, and the strength of the force that had crossed and its apparent indisposition to attack indicated that the principal effort of the enemy would be made in some other quarter. This impression was confirmed by intelligence received from General Stuart that a large body of infantry and artillery was passing up the river. During the forenoon of the 29th that officer reported that the enemy had crossed in force near Kelly's Ford on the preceding evening. Later in the day he announced that a heavy column was moving from Kelly's toward Germanna Ford, on the Rapidan, and another toward Ely's Ford, on that river. The routes they were pursuing after crossing the Rapidan converge near Chancellorsville, whence several roads lead to the rear of our position at Fredericksburg.

On the night of the 29th General Anderson was directed to proceed toward Chancellorsville and dispose Wright's brigade and the troops from the Bark Mill Ford to cover these roads. Arriving at Chancellorsville about midnight, he found the commands of Generals Mahone and Posey already there, having been withdrawn from the Bark Mill Ford, with the exception of a small guard.

Learning that the enemy had crossed the Rapidan and were approaching in strong force, General Anderson retired early on the morning of the 30th to the intersection of the Mine and Plank roads, near Tabernacle Church, and began to intrench himself. The enemy's cavalry skirmished with the rear guard as he left Chancellorsville, but, being vigorously repulsed by Mahone's brigade, offered no further opposition to his march. Mahone was placed on the old turnpike, Wright and Posey on the Plank road.

In the mean time General Stuart had been directed to endeavor to impede the progress of the column marching by way of Germanna Ford. Detaching W. H. F. Lee with his two regiments (the Ninth and Thirteenth Virginia) to oppose the main body of the enemy's cavalry, General Stuart crossed the Rapidan at Raccoon Ford with Fitzhugh Lee's brigade on the night of the 29th. Halting to give his men a few hours' repose, he ordered Colonel (Thomas H.) Owen with the Third Virginia Cavalry to throw himself in front of the enemy, while the rest of the brig-

ade attacked his right flank at the Wilderness Tavern, between Germanna Ford and Chancellorsville. By this means the march of his column was delayed until 12 M., when, learning that the one from Ely's Ford had already reached Chancellorsville, General Stuart marched by Todd's Tavern toward Spottsylvania Court House to put himself in communication with the main body of the army, and Colonel Owen fell back upon General Anderson.

The enemy in our front near Fredericksburg continued inactive, and it was now apparent that the main attack would be made upon our flank and rear. It was, therefore, determined to leave sufficient troops to hold our lines and with main body of the army to give battle to the approaching column. Early's division, of Jackson's corps, and Barksdale's brigade, of McLaws's division, with part of the Reserve Artillery, under General (W. N.) Pendleton, were intrusted with the defense of our position at Fredericksburg, and, at midnight on the 30th, General McLaws marched with the rest of his command toward Chancellorsville. General Jackson followed at dawn next morning with the remaining divisions of his corps. He reached the position occupied by General Anderson at 8 A. M. and immediately began preparations to advance.

At 11 A. M. the troops moved forward upon the Plank and old Turnpike roads, Anderson, with the brigades of Wright and Posey,

leading on the former; McLaws, with his three brigades, preceded by Mahone's, on the latter. Generals Wilcox and Perry, of Anderson's division, co-operated with McLaws. Jackson's troops followed Anderson on the Plank road. Colonel Alexander's battalion of artillery accompanied the advance. The enemy was soon encountered on both roads, and heavy skirmishing with infantry and artillery ensued, our troops pressing steadily forward. A strong attack upon General McLaws was repulsed with spirit by Semmes's brigade, and General Wright, by direction of General Anderson, diverging to the left of the Plank road, marched by way of the unfinished railroad from Fredericksburg to Gordonsville and turned the enemy's right. His whole line thereupon retreated rapidly, vigorously pursued by our troops until they arrived within about one mile of Chancellorsville. Here the enemy had assumed a position of great natural strength, surrounded on all sides by a dense forest filled with a tangled undergrowth, in the midst of which breastworks of logs had been constructed, with trees felled in front, so as to form an almost impenetrable abatis. His artillery swept the few narrow roads by which his position could be approached from the front, and commanded the adjacent woods. The left of his line extended from Chancellorsville toward the Rappahannock, covering the Bark Mill Ford, where he communicated with the north bank of the river by a pontoon bridge.

His right stretched westward along the Germanna Ford road more than two miles. Darkness was approaching before the strength and extent of his line could be ascertained, and, as the nature of the country rendered it hazardous to attack by night, our troops were halted and formed in line of battle in front of Chancellorsville, at right angles to the Plank road, extending on the right to the Mine road and to the left in the direction of the Catharine Furnace. Colonel (William C.) Wickham with the Fourth Virginia Cavalry and Colonel Owen's regiment was stationed between the Mine road and the Rappahannock. The rest of the cavalry was upon our left flank.

It was evident that a direct attack upon the enemy would be attended with great difficulty and loss, in view of the strength of his position and his superiority of numbers. It was, therefore, resolved to endeavor to turn his right flank and gain his rear, leaving a force in front of him to hold him in check and conceal the movement. The execution of this plan was intrusted to Lieutenant-General Jackson with his three divisions. The commands of Generals McLaws and Anderson, with the exception of Wilcox's brigade, which during the night had been ordered back to Banks' Ford, remained in front of the enemy.

Early on the morning of the 2d, General Jackson marched by the Furnace and Brock roads, his movement being effectually cov-

ered by Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry, under General Stuart in person. As the rear of the train was passing the furnace, a large force of the enemy advanced from Chancellorsville and attempted its capture. General Jackson had left the Twenty-third Georgia Regiment, under Colonel (E. F.) Best, at this point to guard his flank, and upon the approach of the enemy, Lieutenant-Colonel (J. T.) Brown, whose artillery was passing at the time, placed a battery in position to aid in checking his advance. A small number of men who were marching to join their commands, including Captain (W. S.) Moore, with two companies of the Fourteenth Tennessee Regiment, of Archer's brigade, reported to Colonel Brown and supported his guns. The enemy was kept back by this small force until the train had passed, but his superior numbers enabled him subsequently to surround and capture the greater part of the Twenty-third Georgia Regiment. General Anderson was directed to send a brigade to resist the further progress of this column, and detached General Posey for that purpose. General Posey became warmly engaged with a superior force, but, being reinforced by General (A. R.) Wright, the enemy's advance was arrested.

After a long and fatiguing march, General Jackson's leading division, under General Rodes, reached the old turnpike, about three miles in rear of Chancellorsville, at 4 P. M. As the different divisions arrived

they were formed at right angles to the road —Rodes in front; Trimble's division, under Brigadier-General (R. E.) Colston, in the second, and A. P. Hill's division in the third line.

At 6 P. M. the advance was ordered. The enemy were taken by surprise, and fled after a brief resistance. General Rodes's men pushed forward with great vigor and enthusiasm, followed closely by the second and third lines. Position after position was carried, the guns captured, and every effort of the enemy to rally defeated by the impetuous rush of our troops. In the ardor of pursuit through the thick and tangled woods the first and second lines at last became mingled and moved on together as one. The enemy made a stand at a line of breastworks across the road, at the house of Melzie Chancellor, but the troops of Rodes and Colston dashed over the intrenchments together, and the flight and pursuit were resumed, and continued until our advance was arrested by the abatis in front of the line of works near the central position at Chancellorsville. It was now dark, and General Jackson ordered the third line, under General (A. P.) Hill, to advance to the front and relieve the troops of Rodes and Colston, who were completely blended and in such disorder, from their rapid advance through intricate woods and over broken ground, that it was necessary to reform them. As Hill's men moved forward, General Jackson, with his staff and escort,

returning from the extreme front, met his skirmishers advancing, and in the obscurity of the night were mistaken for the enemy and fired upon. Capt. (J. K.) Boswell, chief engineer of the corps, and several others were killed and a number wounded. General Jackson himself received a severe injury and was borne from the field. The command devolved upon Major-General Hill, whose division, under General Heth, was advanced to the line of intrenchments which had been reached by Rodes and Colston. A furious fire of artillery was opened upon them by the enemy, under cover of which his infantry advanced to the attack. They were handsomely repulsed by the Fifty-fifth Virginia Regiment, under Colonel (Francis) Mallory, who was killed while bravely leading his men. General Hill was soon afterward disabled, and Major-General Stuart, who had been directed by General Jackson to seize the road to Ely's Ford, in rear of the enemy, was sent for to take command. At this point the right of Hill's division was attacked by the column of the enemy already mentioned as having penetrated to the furnace, which had been recalled to Chancellorsville to avoid being cut off by the advance of Jackson. This attack was gallantly met and repulsed by the Eighteenth and Twenty-eighth and a portion of the Thirty-third North Carolina regiments, Lane's brigade.

Upon General Stuart's arrival, soon afterward, the command was turned over to him

by General Hill. He immediately proceeded to reconnoiter the ground and make himself acquainted with the disposition of the troops. The darkness of the night and the difficulty of moving through the woods and undergrowth rendered it advisable to defer further operations until morning, and the troops rested on their arms in line of battle. Colonel (S.) Crutchfield, chief of artillery of the corps, was severely wounded, and Colonel (E. P.) Alexander, senior artillery officer present, was engaged during the entire night in selecting positions for our batteries.

As soon as the sound of cannon gave notice of Jackson's attack on the enemy's right, our troops in front of Chancellorsville were ordered to press him strongly on the left, to prevent reinforcements being sent to the point assailed. They were directed not to attack in force unless a favorable opportunity should present itself, and, while continuing to cover the roads leading from their respective positions toward Chancellorsville, to incline to the left so as to connect with Jackson's right as he closed upon the center. These orders were well executed, our troops advancing up to the enemy's intrenchments, while several batteries played with good effect upon his lines until prevented by the increasing darkness.

Early on the morning of the 3d, General Stuart renewed the attack upon the enemy, who had strengthened his right during the night with additional breastworks, while a

large number of guns, protected by intrenchments, were posted so as to sweep the woods through which our troops had to advance. Hill's division was in front, with Colston in the second line and Rodes in the third. The second and third lines soon advanced to the support of the first, and the whole became hotly engaged. The breastworks at which the attack was suspended the preceding evening were carried by assault under a terrible fire of musketry and artillery. In rear of these breastworks was a barricade, from which the enemy was quickly driven. The troops on the left of the Plank road, pressing through the woods, attacked and broke the next line, while those on the right bravely assailed the extensive earthworks, behind which the enemy's artillery was posted. Three times were these works carried, and as often were the brave assailants compelled to abandon—twice by the retirement of the troops on their left, who fell back after a gallant struggle with superior numbers, and once by a movement of the enemy on their right, caused by the advance of General Anderson. The left, being reinforced, finally succeeded in driving back the enemy, and the artillery under Lieutenant-Colonel (T. H.) Carter and (H. P.) Jones being thrown forward to occupy favorable positions secured by the advance of the infantry, began to play with great precision and effect. Anderson, in the mean time, pressed gallantly forward directly upon Chancellorsville, his right resting upon

the Plank road and his left extending toward the furnace, while McLaws made a strong demonstration to the right of the road. As the troops advancing upon the enemy's front and right converged upon his central position, Anderson effected a junction with Jackson's corps, and the whole line pressed irresistibly on. The enemy was driven from all his fortified positions, with heavy loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, and retreated toward the Rappahannock. By 10 A. M. we were in full possession of the field.

The troops, having become somewhat scattered by the difficulties of the ground and the ardor of the contest, were immediately reformed preparatory to renewing the attack. The enemy had withdrawn to a strong position nearer the Rappahannock, which he had previously fortified. His superiority of numbers, the unfavorable nature of the ground, which was densely wooded, and the condition of our troops after the arduous and sanguinary conflict in which they had been engaged, rendered great caution necessary. Our preparations were just completed when further operations were arrested by intelligence received from Fredericksburg.

General Early had been instructed, in event of the enemy withdrawing from his front and moving up the river, to join the main body of the army with so much of his command as could be spared from the defense of his lines. This order was repeated on the 2d, but by a misapprehension on the

part of the officer conveying it, General Early was directed to move unconditionally. Leaving Hays's brigade and one regiment of Barksdale's at Fredericksburg, and directing a part of General Pendleton's artillery to be sent to the rear, in compliance with the order delivered to him, General Early moved with the rest of his command toward Chancellorsville. As soon as his withdrawal was perceived, the enemy began to give evidence of an intention to advance, but the mistake in the transmission of the order being corrected, General Early returned to his original position.

The line to be defended by Barksdale's brigade extended from the Rappahannock, above Fredericksburg, to the rear of Howison's house, a distance of more than two miles. The artillery was posted along the heights in rear of the town.

Before dawn on the morning of the 3d, General Barksdale reported to General Early that the enemy had occupied Fredericksburg in large force and laid down a bridge at the town. Hays's brigade was sent to his support, and placed on his extreme left, with the exception of one regiment on the right of his line behind Howison's house. Seven companies of the Twenty-first Mississippi Regiment were posted by General Barksdale between the Marye house and the Plank road, the Eighteenth and the three other companies of the Twenty-first occupied the Telegraph road at the foot of Marye's Hill, the two re-

maining regiments of the brigade being farther to the right, on the hills near Howison's house. The enemy made a demonstration against the extreme right, which was easily repulsed by General Early. Soon afterward a column moved from Fredericksburg along the river bank, as if to gain the heights on the extreme left, which commanded those immediately in rear of the town. This attempt was foiled by General Hays and the arrival of General Wilcox from Banks' Ford, who deployed a few skirmishers on the hill near Taylor's house, and opened on the enemy with a section of artillery. Very soon the enemy advanced in large force against Marye's and the hills to the right and left of it. Two assaults were gallantly repulsed by Barksdale's men and the artillery. After the second, a flag of truce was sent from the town to obtain permission to provide for the wounded.

Three heavy lines advanced immediately upon the return of the flag and renewed the attack. They were bravely repulsed on the right and left, but the small force at the foot of Marye's Hill, overpowered by more than ten times their number, was captured after a heroic resistance and the hill carried. Eight pieces of the artillery were taken on Marye's and the adjacent heights. The remainder of Barksdale's brigade, together with that of General Hays and the artillery on the right, retired down the Telegraph road. The success of the enemy enabled him to threaten

our communications by moving down the Telegraph road, or to come upon our rear at Chancellorsville by the Plank road. He at first advanced on the former, but was checked by General Early, who had halted the commands of Barksdale and Hays, with the artillery, about two miles from Marye's Hill, and reinforced them with three regiments of Gordon's brigade. The enemy then began to advance up the Plank road, his progress being gallantly disputed by the brigade of General Wilcox, who had moved from Banks' Ford as rapidly as possible to the assistance of General Barksdale, but arrived too late to take part in the action. General Wilcox fell back slowly until he reached Salem Church, on the Plank road, about five miles from Fredericksburg.

Information of the state of affairs in our rear having reached Chancellorsville, as already stated, General McLaws, with his three brigades and one of General Anderson's, was ordered to reinforce General Wilcox. He arrived at Salem Church early in the afternoon, where he found General Wilcox in line of battle, with a large force of the enemy—consisting, as was reported, of one army corps and part of another, under Major-General Sedgwick—in his front. The brigades of Kershaw and Wofford were placed on the right of Wilcox, those of Semmes and Mahone on his left. The enemy's artillery played vigorously upon our position for some time, when his infantry advanced in three strong

lines, the attack being directed mainly against General Wilcox, but partially involving the brigades on his left. The assault was met with the utmost firmness, and after a fierce struggle the first line was repulsed with great slaughter. The second then came forward, but immediately broke under the close and deadly fire which it encountered, and the whole mass fled in confusion to the rear. They were pursued by the brigades of Wilcox and Semmes, which advanced nearly a mile, when they were halted to re-form in the presence of the enemy's reserve, which now appeared in large force. It being quite dark, General Wilcox deemed it imprudent to push the attack with his small numbers, and retired to his original position, the enemy making no attempt to follow.

The next morning General Early advanced along the Telegraph road, and recaptured Marye's and the adjacent hills without difficulty, thus gaining the rear of the enemy's left. He then proposed to General McLaws that a simultaneous attack should be made by their respective commands, but the latter officer not deeming his force adequate to assail the enemy in front, the proposition was not carried into effect.

In the mean time the enemy had so strengthened his position near Chancellorsville that it was deemed inexpedient to assail it with less than our whole force, which could not be concentrated until we were relieved from the danger that menaced our rear. It

was accordingly resolved still further to reinforce the troops in front of General Sedgwick, in order, if possible, to drive him across the Rappahannock.

Accordingly, on the 4th, General Anderson was directed to proceed with his remaining three brigades to join General McLaws, the three divisions of Jackson's corps holding our position at Chancellorsville. Anderson reached Salem Church about noon, and was directed to gain the left flank of the enemy and effect a junction with Early. McLaws's troops were disposed as on the previous day, with orders to hold the enemy in front, and to push forward his right brigades as soon as the advance of Anderson and Early should be perceived, so as to connect with them and complete the continuity of our line. Some delay occurred in getting the troops into position, owing to the broken and irregular nature of the ground and the difficulty of ascertaining the disposition of the enemy's forces. The attack did not begin until 6 P. M., when Anderson and Early moved forward and drove General Sedgwick's troops rapidly before them across the Plank road in the direction of the Rappahannock. The speedy approach of darkness prevented General McLaws from perceiving the success of the attack until the enemy began to recross the river a short distance below Banks' Ford, where he had laid one of his pontoon bridges. His right brigades, under Kershaw and Wofford, advanced through the woods in the di-

rection of the firing, but the retreat was so rapid that they could only join in the pursuit. A dense fog settled over the field, increasing the obscurity, and rendering great caution necessary to avoid collision between our own troops. Their movements were consequently slow. General Wilcox, with Kershaw's brigade and two regiments of his own, accompanied by a battery, proceeded nearly to the river, capturing a number of prisoners and inflicting great damage upon the enemy. General McLaws also directed Colonel (E. P.) Alexander's artillery to fire upon the locality of the enemy's bridge, which was done with good effect.

The next morning it was found that General Sedgwick had made good his escape and removed his bridges. Fredericksburg was also evacuated, and our rear no longer threatened; but as General Sedgwick had it in his power to recross, it was deemed best to leave General Early, with his division and Barksdale's brigade, to hold our lines as before, McLaws and Anderson being directed to return to Chancellorsville. They reached their destination during the afternoon, in the midst of a violent storm, which continued throughout the night and most of the following day.

Preparations were made to assail the enemy's works at daylight on the 6th, but on advancing our skirmishers it was found that under cover of the storm and darkness of the night he had retreated over the river.

A detachment was left to guard the battle-field while the wounded were being removed and the captured property collected. The rest of the army returned to its former position.

Particulars of these operations will be found in the reports of the several commanding officers, which are herewith transmitted. They will show more fully than my limits will suffer me to do the dangers and difficulties which, under God's blessing, were surmounted by the fortitude and valor of our army. The conduct of the troops cannot be too highly praised. Attacking largely superior numbers in strongly intrenched positions, their heroic courage overcame obstacles of nature and art, and achieved a triumph most honorable to our arms.

I commend to the particular notice of the Department the brave officers and men mentioned by their superiors for extraordinary daring and merit, whose names I am unable to enumerate here. Among them will be found some who have passed, by a glorious death, beyond the reach of praise, but the memory of those whose virtues and devoted patriotism will ever be cherished by their grateful countrymen.

The returns of the medical director will show the extent of our loss, which, from the nature of the circumstances attending the engagements, could not be otherwise than severe. Many valuable officers and men were killed or wounded in the faithful discharge

of duty. Among the former, Brigadier-General Paxton fell while leading his brigade with conspicuous courage in the assault on the enemy's works at Chancellorsville.

The gallant Brigadier-General Nicholls lost a leg.

Brigadier-General McGowan was severely and Brigadier-Generals Heth and Pender were slightly wounded in the same engagement. The latter officer led his brigade to the attack under a destructive fire, bearing the colors of a regiment in his own hands up to and over the intrenchments with the most distinguished gallantry.

General Hoke received a painful wound in the action near Fredericksburg.

The movement by which the enemy's position was turned and the fortune of the day decided was conducted by the lamented Lieutenant-General Jackson, who, as has already been stated, was severely wounded near the close of the engagement Saturday evening. I do not propose here to speak of the character of this illustrious man, since removed from the scene of his eminent usefulness by the hand of an inscrutable but all-wise Providence. I nevertheless desire to pay the tribute of my admiration to the matchless energy and skill that marked this last act of his life, forming, as it did, a worthy conclusion of that long series of splendid achievements which won for him the lasting love and gratitude of his country.

Maj.-Gen. A. P. Hill was disabled soon

after assuming command, but did not leave the field until the arrival of Major-General Stuart. The latter officer ably discharged the difficult and responsible duties which he was unexpectedly called to perform. Assuming the command late in the night, at the close of a fierce engagement, and in the immediate presence of the enemy, necessarily ignorant in a great measure of the disposition of the troops and of the plans of those who had preceded him, General Stuart exhibited great energy, promptness, and intelligence. During the continuance of the engagement, the next day, he conducted the operations on the left with distinguished capacity and vigor, stimulating and cheering the troops by the example of his own coolness and daring.

While it is impossible to mention all who were conspicuous in the several engagements, it will not be considered an invidious distinction to say that General Jackson, after he was wounded, in expressing the satisfaction he derived from the conduct of his whole command, commended to my particular attention the services of Brigadier-General (now Major-General) Rodes and his gallant division.

Major-General Early performed the important and responsible duty intrusted to him in a manner which reflected credit upon himself and his command. Maj.-Gen. R. H. Anderson was also distinguished for the promptness, courage, and skill with which he and his division executed every order, and

Brigadier-General (now Major-General) Wilcox is entitled to especial praise for the judgment and bravery displayed in impeding the advance of General Sedgwick toward Chancellorsville, and for the gallant and successful stand at Salem Church.

To the skilful and efficient management of the artillery the successful issue of the contest is in great measure due. The ground was not favorable for its employment, but every suitable position was taken with alacrity, and the operations of the infantry supported and assisted with a spirit and courage not second to their own. It bore a prominent part in the final assault which ended in driving the enemy from the field of Chancellorsville, silencing his batteries, and by a destructive enfilade fire upon his works opened the way for the advance of our troops.

Colonels Crutchfield, Alexander, and (R. L.) Walker, and Lieutenant-Colonels (J. T.) Brown, (T. H.) Carter, and (R. S.) Andrews, with the officers and men of their commands, are mentioned as deserving especial commendation. The batteries under General Pendleton also acted with great gallantry.

The cavalry of the army at the time of these operations was much reduced. To its vigilance and energy we were indebted for timely information of the enemy's movements before the battle, and for impeding his march to Chancellorsville. It guarded both flanks of the army during the battle at

that place, and a portion of it, as has been already stated, rendered valuable service in covering the march of Jackson to the enemy's rear.

The horse artillery accompanied the infantry, and participated with credit to itself in the engagement. The nature of the country rendered it impossible for the cavalry to do more.

When the enemy's infantry passed the Rappahannock at Kelly's Ford, his cavalry, under General Stoneman, also crossed in large force, and proceeded through Culpeper County toward Gordonsville, for the purpose of cutting the railroad to Richmond. General Stuart had nothing to oppose this movement but two regiments of Brig.-Gen. W. H. F. Lee's brigade (the Ninth and Thirteenth Virginia Cavalry). General Lee fell back before the overwhelming numbers of the enemy, and, after holding the railroad bridge over the Rapidan during May 1, burned the bridge and retired to Gordonsville at night. The enemy avoided Gordonsville, and reached Louisa Court House, on the Central Railroad, which he proceeded to break up. Dividing his force, a part of it also cut the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad, and part proceeded to Columbia, on the James River and Kanawha Canal, with the design of destroying the aqueduct at that place. The small command of General Lee exerted itself vigorously to defeat this purpose, and the canal was saved from in-

jury. The details of his operations will be found in the accompanying memorandum, and are creditable to officers and men.

The loss of the enemy in the battle of Chancellorsville and the other engagements was severe. His dead and a large number of wounded were left on the field. About five thousand prisoners, exclusive of the wounded, were taken, and thirteen pieces of artillery, nineteen thousand five hundred stand of arms, seventeen colors, and a large quantity of ammunition fell into our hands.

To the members of my staff I am indebted for assistance in observing the movements of the enemy, posting troops, and conveying orders. On so extended and varied a field all were called into requisition, and all evinced the greatest energy and zeal.

The medical director of the army, Surgeon (L.) Guild, with the officers of his department, were untiring in their attention to the wounded.

Lieutenant-Colonel (J. L.) Corley, chief quartermaster, took charge of the disposition and safety of the trains of the army.

Lieutenant-Colonel (Robert G.) Cole, chief commissary of subsistence, and Lieutenant-Colonel (Biscoe G.) Baldwin, chief of ordnance, were everywhere on the field attending to the wants of their departments.

General Chilton, chief of staff, Lieutenant-Colonel (E.) Murray, Major (Henry E.) Peyton, and Captain (H. E.) Young, of the Adjutant and Inspector General's Depart-

ment, were active in seeing to the execution of orders; Lieutenant-Colonel (William P.) Smith and Captain (Samuel R.) Johnston, of the engineers, in reconnoitering the enemy and constructing batteries; Colonel (Armistead L.) Long in posting troops and artillery.

Majors (Walter H.) Taylor, (T. M. R.) Talcott, (Charles) Marshall, and (Charles S.) Venable were engaged night and day in watching the operations, carrying orders, etc.

Respectfully submitted.

R. E. LEE,
General.

General S. COOPER,
Adjt. and Insp. Gen. C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.

Forces Under General Lee in Chancellorsville Campaign.

Abstract from Returns of the Army of Northern Virginia, Under General R. E. Lee, C. S. Army, for Month of March, 1863, Headquarters Fredericksburg, Va. (Latest Report Prior to Opening of the Campaign).

FIRST CORPS.

Anderson's Division, effective total... 7,665
McLaws's division, effective total..... 7,984

SECOND CORPS.

A. P. Hill's division, effective total...10,601
Rodes's division (formerly D. H. Hill's), effective total..... 8,964
Early's division, effective total..... 7,638
Colston's division (formerly Trimble's), effective total..... 6,130

CAVALRY.

6,509.
Guns, 12.

ARTILLERY.

(Report February, 1865.)
Officers and men, 4,064.
Guns, 264.

Report of Killed, Wounded and Missing, Chancellorsville Campaign, by Surgeon-

General Guild, Medical Director, C. S. Army.

Killed	1,581
Wounded	8,700
Missing	1,803

(Taken from Reports of commanders of brigades and regiments.)

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